Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04320 281848Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: PROCEDURES FOR PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM:

HIGHEST-LEVEL EXCHANGES

REF: MOSCOW 4313

1. IT IS OUR STRONG BELIEF THAT THE BEST MEANS OF ENCOURAGING HIGHEST-LEVEL(I.E., CABINET/TOP AMERICAN POLITICAL PARTY AND POLITBURO-SECRETARIAT LEVEL) EXCHANGES IS TO PRESS FOR AN AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED AT THE WASHINGTON SUMMIT INSTITUTING SUCH EXCHANGES. OUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE MAZUROV INVITATION, WHICH HAS BEEN GATHERING DUST FOR OVER A YEAR NOW, IS JUST ONE INDICATION THAT IT WILL TAKE A STRONG PUSH FROM THE TOP TO GET SUCH EXCAHNGES OFF THE GROUND. ACCORDINGLY, AS NOTEL REFTEL, WE RECOMMEND THAT HIGHEST-LEVEL EXCHANGES NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM. ONCE WE HAVE A SUMMIT AGREEMENT, THE MODALITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE EXCHANGE CAN BE WORKED OUT.

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Subject: PROCEDURES FOR PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM: HIGHEST-LEVEL EXCHANGES

TAGS: OEXC, UR To: STATE

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